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furnish adequate opportunity or means for the accomplishment of desired ends. Denmark demonstrates this truism: "What you would have a nation become, put into her schools."

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Experimental Physics, A Textbook of Mechanics, Heat, Sound, and Light. By HAROLD A. WILSON, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., Professor of Physics at Rice Institute, Houston, Tex. Cambridge: University Press (Physical Series), 1915. Pp. viii+405. $2.50.

The book is intended as a text for use in connection with a regular first-year college lecture-demonstration course in the above-mentioned fields of physics. It has been written on the principle that the study of a few essential principles, and phenomena, thoroughly discussed, and well explained and demonstrated, is the best method of physical instruction. For a course whose purpose it is to give one a thorough working knowledge of the essentials of physics, such a method is admirable. But, however admirable this method may be for purposes of instruction, it does not tend to stimulate the student to a natural and spontaneous interest in physics, as a more elaborate course would. Referred to this principle, the phenomena are well chosen and excellently presented, the method of presentation being based on experiment throughout. The subjects are developed in a strictly logical rather than historical manner, the derivations of the equations used being given, wherever possible, and being treated in an elegant but simple fashion. The book requires a knowledge of mathematics only through very elementary trigonometry, the derivations being purely geometrical in every case where such a derivation is possible. It is consequently excellently adapted for use by the average American college student in a first-year course in college physics. Such a book fills a long-felt need for a simple but thorough text, not requiring a knowledge of higher mathematics, to be used in courses of physics required of certain types of professional students. In this respect it is particularly well adapted to the use of pre-medical students. The only point to be regretted is the absence of a well-chosen set of problems for the student to work, which might come at the end of each chapter, illustrating the principles involved. The reference texts mentioned at the end of each chapter are excellent, being such books as Maxwell's *Matter and Motion*, Poynting and Thomson's *Properties of Matter*, and R. W. Wood's *Physical Optics*. The book could well be used as a text in an elementary college course, particularly in the fields of mechanics, wave-motion, and sound, which are remarkably well treated. It will certainly serve as a very valuable reference text, on account of its clearness and simplicity in the presentation of the phenomena.

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